

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are rejected as obvious from *Gao* (U.S. Patent No. 6,095,650) in view of *Foley* (U.S. Patent No. 6,535,223). However, Applicant herewith encloses a Declaration swearing behind the *Foley* reference. The enclosed Declaration of inventor Michael Shanley is additional to the Declaration of inventor Pierre Fay already received by the Examiner. Further diligent effort has now resulted in Declarations of both coinventors confirming that the present invention was conceived and diligently pursued prior to the filing date of the *Foley* reference.

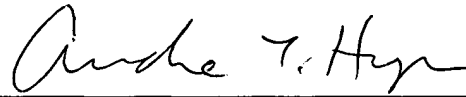
CONCLUSION

For these reasons, it is not perceived how the claimed invention can be derived from the valid prior art, or how it might be obvious in view of the valid prior art. The references do not suggest what is set out in the applicant's claims, and do not provide the basis for developing the invention to persons having ordinary skill in the art to which the subject matter pertains. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested, and early allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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